

## Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PRS-01 PA-01 /099 W

----- 129717

R 101643Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9696

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMCONSUL KADUNA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, CD, NI

SUBJECT: FUEL SHORTAGE IN CHAD

REF: NDJAMENA 1393

1. MANAGER OF ONE OF THE AMERICAN COMPANIES INVOLVED CONFIRMS THAT FUEL SHORTAGE IN CHAD RESULTS FROM NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT ORDER IN MID-MAY TEMPORARILY PROHIBITING EXPORTS FROM OIL COMPANY TERMINALS IN MAIDUGURI. COMPANIES WERE NOT PREVENTED FROM TRUCKING FUEL TO CHAD FROM PORT HARCOURT, LAGOS/APAPA, KADUNA, OR OTHER TERMINALS IN NIGERIA, BUT MAIDUGURI WAS THE SUPPLY POINT NORMALLY USED BY TWO OR MORE COMPANIES, AND THE ORDER INEVITABLY CAUSED MAJOR DISRUPTION IN THEIR OPERATIONS. REASON FOR THE ORDER IS SIMPLY THAT NIGERIANS IN NORTH EAST STATE WERE SUFFERING OCCASIONAL FUEL SHORTAGES AND WERE UNHAPPY THAT FUEL WAS BEING TAKEN FROM MAIDUGURI FOR USE OUTSIDE NIGERIA.

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2. THE NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT ORDER WAS MODIFIED MAY 29 TO ALLOW EXPORTS FROM MAIDUGURI WHEN STOCKS THERE EXCEED TEN DAYS' CONSUMPTION IN MAIDUGURI AREA. SOURCE BELIEVES IT WILL NOW ONLY BE MATTER OF TIME UNTIL SUPPLY GETS BACK TO NORMAL, BUT TRUCKS HAVE BEEN DIVERTED, AND IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS FOR THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR NORMAL ROUTES AND EVEN LONGER FOR STOCKS TO RETURN TO NORMAL. FOR EXAMPLE, GOC ORDERED NUMBER OF TRUCKS NORMALLY USED TO DELIVER FUEL FROM MAIDUGURI TO DRIVE TO DAHOMEY AND/OR TOGO AND RETURN WITH GAS-OIL (DIESEL FUEL). SOURCE COULD NOT CONFIRM IF ANY TRUCKS HAVE HAD DIFFICULTIES RETURNING TO NIGERIA FROM DAHOMEY, BUT HE DID SAY THAT PROBLEM COULD NOT BE SOLVED BY USING NIGERIAN TRUCKS BECAUSE FEW ARE REGISTERED AND INSURED TO GO TO CHAD, AND THEIR OWNERS (ALMOST ALL FUEL TRUCKS IN NIGERIA ARE PRIVATELY OWNED AND OPERATE UNDER CONTRACT TO THE OIL COMPANIES) ARE GENERALLY UNWILLING TO ALLOW THEIR TRUCKS TO ENTER CHAD.

3. SOURCE COMMENTED THAT NIGERIAN AUTHORITIES IN MAIDUGURI AND LAGOS WITH WHOM HE HAS DEALT ARE NOT SYMPATHETIC TO CHAD'S PLIGHT AND HAVE MENTIONED, RIGHTLY OR WRONGLY, THAT THE NEW GOC SENT GOODWILL DELEGATIONS ALMOST EVERYWHERE IN AFRICA EXCEPT NIGERIA. SOURCE OFFERED OWN OBSERVATION THAT CHAD NEEDS COOPERATION OF NIGERIA INFINITELY MORE THAN OTHER WAYS ROUND AND THAT EMBASSY NDJAMENA MIGHT DISCREETLY SUGGEST TO CHADIAN LEADERS THAT THEY IMPROVE THEIR POLITICAL RELATIONS WITH NIGERIA. EMBASSY CANNOT JUDGE VALIDITY OF THIS OBSERVATION BUT MERELY PASSES IT ALONG FOR WHATEVER JUDGMENT YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FUEL OIL, SUPPLIES, POLICIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUN 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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